Kent, Henry Watson

[Secretary, Metropolitan Museum of Art],

1920-1931

Please file under

Henry W. Kent -

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

To_____

_____

The undersigned takes pleasure in introducing

M_____

of_____
(firm name)

bearer of this card, who wishes to study your collections to aid in the development of designs for current manufacture.

_____
Associate in Industrial Arts

(This card represents an interchange of courtesy among the following New York institutions whose collections or other facilities are of value to manufacturers and designers in the industrial arts field:-)

May 14th, 1920.

Henry W. Kent, Esq., Secretary,
Metropolitan Museum of Art,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:-

Permit me to thank you for your kind invitation to be present at the gathering to commemorate the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Founding of the Metropolitan Museum of Art on Tuesday afternoon, May 18th, and to express to you the pleasure I have in accepting.

I note that a similar invitation has been addressed to Mr. Edward T. Newell, the President of our Society. May I say that his absence abroad will make it impossible for him to be present.

Very respectfully yours,

Secretary.

D. r. b.

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART
NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

October 4, 1920

Mr. Sidney P. Noe, Secretary,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, between 155th & 156th Sts.,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Noe:

I take the liberty of suggesting a plan of coöperation among various institutions in New York City whose collections and facilities are of value to designers, manufacturers, and others engaged in the production of objects of industrial art. It is suggested that as an initial step a card similar to that enclosed be prepared, the list of coöperating institutions to be printed on the back and the card to serve as an introduction carried by the designer or other person interested from one institution to another.

At this Museum we have frequently found occasion to refer designers to other institutions and we have been convinced that a definitely understood relation, as evidenced by the card suggested would be highly desirable.

May I ask whether your institution would consider the matter favorably?

Cordially yours,

H. W. Kent

Secretary

October 9th, 1920

H. W. Kent, Esq.
Sec. Metropolitan Museum of Art
New York City

Dear Mr. Kent:

Your letter of October 4th, suggesting a plan of co-operation among Institutions in New York City whose collections are of value to designers, was presented at the meeting of our Council yesterday.

I was directed to write you that the suggestion appears a very good one to us, and that we will gladly join the Metropolitan Museum and other Institutions in using such a card. The plan should certainly simplify the referring of those desiring help to the organization best equipped to give it.

Is it the plan to have the cards printed and distributed to each of those co-operating, or will each organization print similar cards?

Very respectfully yours,

Secretary

SPN/E

A I c 1-1-21

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM
OF ART
NEW YORK

PRESIDENT, ROBERT W. DE FOREST
DIRECTOR, EDWARD ROBINSON
SECRETARY, HENRY W. KENT

July 11, 1922

My dear Mr. Noe:

Will you please tell me what coin is marked as follows: On one side of the thin copper piece, which is of the size indicated, the lettering is

and on the other, around the edge, LOUIS XVI DE. FR. FT. NAV, with a fleur de lis stamped in the centre.

I am seeking this information on behalf of a friend, and I should greatly value any help you may be able to give.

Very truly yours,

H. W. Kent

Mr. Sydney P. Noe, Secretary
American Numismatic Society
Broadway and 155th Street
New York City

July 14th, 1922

Henry W. Kent, Esq.
The Metropolitan Museum of Art
New York City

Dear Mr. Kent:

In response to your letter of July 11th, the piece described is one thus far issued by the French Mint of Cayenne. There are a number of varieties as the issue was a fairly large one, extending from 1781 to 1789.

If your friend has access to a large library, he will find the series described in the American Journal of Numismatics for 1914 (Vol.XLVIII, p.134) with illustrations of some of the varieties which may enable him to identify the particular one in his possession. These coins are usually much worn.

I trust this will give you the desired information.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

SPN/E

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM
OF ART

NEW YORK

PRESIDENT, ROBERT W. DE FOREST
DIRECTOR, EDWARD ROBINSON
SECRETARY, HENRY W. KENT

December 13, 1924

Mr. W. Gedney Beatty, Chairman
Publication of Medals Committee
American Numismatic Society
Broadway and 156th Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Beatty:

Judge Clearwater has very generously given his consent to the photographing of the Paul Revere sugar bowl in his collection here, and to its reproduction on a medal for the American Numismatic Society. In his letter to me, he says that the photographing shall be done subject to the following conditions:

1st. That the photographing shall be done at the Museum, and that the bowl shall not be removed from the building, and immediately shall be returned to the case from which it was taken.

2nd. That in any publication of the photograph, it shall be stated that the bowl forms a part of my collection at the Metropolitan.

Very truly yours,

H. W. Kent

Mention to be made of this in the circular of the medal

W. Gedney Beatty

June 3, 1925

Henry W. Kent, Esq.
Secretary, The Metropolitan Museum of Art
New York City

Dear Mr. Kent:

This morning I received the monograph on the Restoration of Ancient Bronzes and Other Alloys, which had so generously been sent me with the compliments of the Trustees of The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Thank you very much indeed.

Through Dr. Robinson, I already knew of much that this book records and of its importance. Such a publication is a fine illustration of the dynamic service in which The Metropolitan Museum has taken such a lead. The stimulative effect on other institutions will unquestionably be very great.

Very respectfully yours

SPN C

Secretary

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM
OF ART
NEW YORK

PRESIDENT, ROBERT W. DE FOREST
DIRECTOR, EDWARD ROBINSON
SECRETARY, HENRY W. KENT

November 8, 1926

Mr. Sydney P. Noe
The American Numismatic Society
Broadway & 156th Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Noe:

Colonel F. L. Palmer offered us as a gift, a collection of coins. I inclose copies of correspondence with him.

May I ask if you would be interested to look at the collection to determine if you would like it, in whole or in part? If so, we will send it to you.

Very truly yours,

November 10, 1926

Henry W. Kent, Esq.,
Secretary,
Metropolitan Museum of Art,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Kent:

Responding to your letter of November 6th: I understand from your letter and from the correspondence accompanying it, that the collection formed by Colonel Palmer is offered to our Museum as a gift from him through you.

We should be very pleased indeed to have it, as it is almost certain to contain material which it has been impossible for us to secure. If you will, therefore, be so good as to send it, as you so courteously offer, we shall greatly appreciate your doing so.

May I also express our appreciation of your mediation in our behalf?

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary.

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM
OF ART
NEW YORK

PRESIDENT, ROBERT W. DE FOREST
DIRECTOR, EDWARD ROBINSON
SECRETARY, HENRY W. KENT

November 12, 1926

Mr. Sydney P. Noe, Secretary
The American Numismatic Society
Broadway and 155th Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Noe:

Our Registrar will send to you the collection referred to in our recent correspondence, belonging to Col. F. L. Palmer, whom I am telling of the transfer.

In one way, it is not quite exact to say that the gift is offered through this Museum, and in another way it is correct. I am glad that you are interested to see it.

Yours sincerely,

H. W. Kent

Coins entered
Nov 24 1926

December 28, 1926

Henry W. Kent, Esq.,
Metropolitan Museum of Art,
Fifth Avenue & 82nd St.,
New York City

Dear Mr. Kent:

Permit me to express my thanks for the [illegible] of admission to the Metropolitan Museum received this morning.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

SPN:MB

31st December, 1928

Henry W. Kent, Esq.,
Secretary of the
Metropolitan Museum of Art

Dear Mr. Kent:

Thank you very much indeed for the card of admission which came with your note. I greatly appreciate the courtesy.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM
OF ART
NEW YORK

PRESIDENT, ROBERT W. DE FOREST
DIRECTOR, EDWARD ROBINSON
SECRETARY, HENRY W. KENT

July 8, 1929

Dear Mr. Noe:

I am sending to you, under separate cover, lists of coins and medals offered for sale by Miss I. Liard of 1 rue Magenta, Pantin, Seine, France.

We have told Miss Liard that this Museum is not interested in the purchase of the objects which she offers, and that I am referring the matter to the Numismatic Society for its consideration.

Very truly yours,

H W Kent

Mr. Sydney P. Noe, Secretary and Librarian
The American Numismatic Society
156th Street, West of Broadway
New York City

11th July, 1929

Henry W. Kent, Esq.,
Secretary,
Metropolitan Museum of Art

Dear Mr. Kent:

Your letter of July 8th and the list of coins and medals belonging to Miss Liard have both been received. I am enclosing for your information a copy of my response to her.

We are unable to consider or place any valuation on coins or medals, either singly or in collections, without seeing the actual pieces involved. This, as you will realize, is entirely due to the fact that condition plays so important a part in the evaluation of coins that it is unsafe to do otherwise. It is rare that two persons will agree in describing the condition of a given piece and upon this condition the value hinges. Occasionally from a list of Greek coins one can obtain sufficient data to warrant asking that the coins be submitted, but in general lists are very unsatisfactory.

Please pardon the length of this explanation which may simplify the handling of future lists that may be sent you.

Very truly yours,

11th July, 1929

Henry W. Kent, Esq.,
Secretary of the
Metropolitan Museum of Art

Dear Mr. Kent:

Your letter of July 8th and the list of coins and medals belonging to Miss Liard have both been received. I am enclosing for your information a copy of my response to her.

May I suggest in the interest of economy of effort for all concerned, that our invariable practice is to reply that we are unable to consider or place any valuation on coins or medals either singly or in collections without seeing the actual pieces involved. This, as you will realize without my telling you, is entirely due to the fact that condition plays so important a part in the evaluation of coins that it is unsafe for us to do otherwise. It is rare that two persons will agree in describing the condition of a given piece and it is upon this condition that the value hinges.

Occasionally from a list of Greek coins one can obtain sufficient data to warrant asking that the coins be submitted, but in general lists are very unsatisfactory.

Please pardon the length of this explanation which may simplify the handling of future lists that may be sent you.

Very truly yours,

December 24, 1929

H. W. Kent, Esq.,
Secretary of the Metropolitan Museum of Art
New York City, New York

Dear Mr. Kent:

Thank you very much indeed for the admission card for 1930, received by me this morning, with the compliments of the Trustees. I very much appreciate the privileges which this card accords, and which it were possible for me to take advantage of them oftener.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

June 12, 1930

Mr. Edward T. Newell, President
American Numismatic Society
Broadway and 156th Street
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that at a meeting of the Trustees of the Museum, held June 9, 1930, authority was given for the loan of two silver ingots to the American Numismatic Society for a period of not less than five years, subject to six months' notice of withdrawal.

Respectfully,

Secretary

June 14th 1910

H.W.Kent, Esq.,
Metropolitan Museum of Art,
New York.

My dear Mr. Kent:

Will you kindly convey to the Trustees of the Metropolitan Museum the hearty thanks and deep appreciation of the members of the Council of the American Numismatic Society for the very welcome loan of two silver ingots. These ingots are of Russian origin and are a most interesting historical and numismatic record of the currency problems and conditions existing in that country during the Middle Ages. In spite of their great importance they have, until now, remained absolutely unrepresented in our collections. It is therefore with the liveliest feelings of satisfaction and gratitude that the members of our council have requested me to express to the Trustees of the Metropolitan Museum their appreciation for so welcome an addition to our numismatic material.

With kindest personal regards, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

President.

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM
OF ART
NEW YORK

PRESIDENT, ROBERT W. DE FOREST
DIRECTOR, EDWARD ROBINSON
SECRETARY, HENRY W. KENT

June 16, 1930

Mr. Edward T. Newell
The American Numismatic Society
Broadway and 155th Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Newell:

I am sure it will be a pleasure to our Trustees to feel that the Russian ingots of silver have found a place where they are really appreciated and can be made of use and given their true value. I shall take a satisfaction in presenting your letter to the Board at its next meeting.

Believe me with kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

H. W. Kent

The American Numismatic
Society

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM
OF ART

Gentlemen:

I HAVE THE HONOR TO INFORM YOU THAT THE TRUSTEES OF THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART HAVE GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED YOUR GIFT OF

Twenty-Six Volumes
For the Library

A. W. Kent
SECRETARY
May 20, 1931